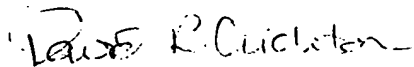


Remarks

A request for a continued prosecution application was filed on January 30, 1998. Applicants present the instant Preliminary Amendment to change the dependency of claim 4. The amendment is a matter of form. No new matter has been added.

In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants aver that the instant claims are now in better condition for examination on the merits. Early favorable action is respectfully solicited. If minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted



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